PRESBYTERIAN ORPHAN'S HOME

Barium Springs, North Carolina

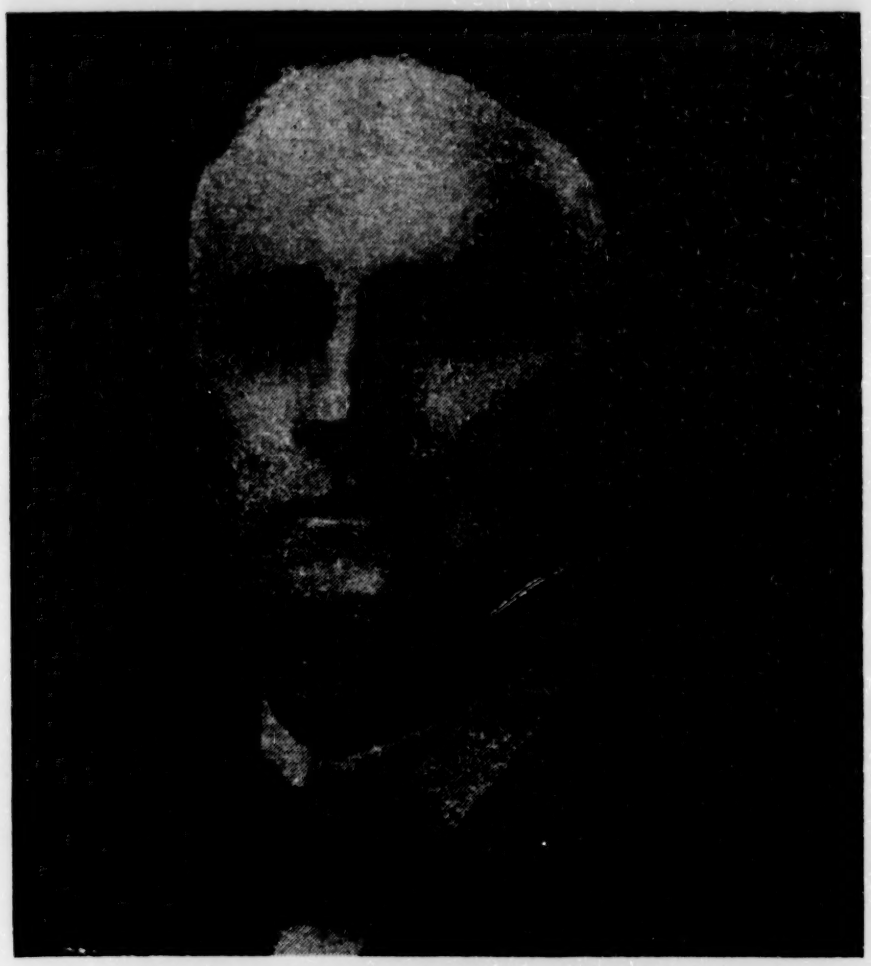
1891 - PRESBYTERIAN ORPHANS' HOME - 1941

THE history of the Presbyterian Orphans' Home is primarily and essentially one of human values. As the onward and steady progress of this work is recorded for posterity in the semi-centennial year of the Home it will be kept in mind that behind every building at Barium Springs, behind every will in which this Home has been generously remembered and behind the several millions of dollars which have been contributed by liberal friends since the inception of this Home has been the principal and and actuating thought that all of this has been done out of a sense of love for dependent children, an innate desire to help in their maintenance and to play a part in training them to be Christian men and women.

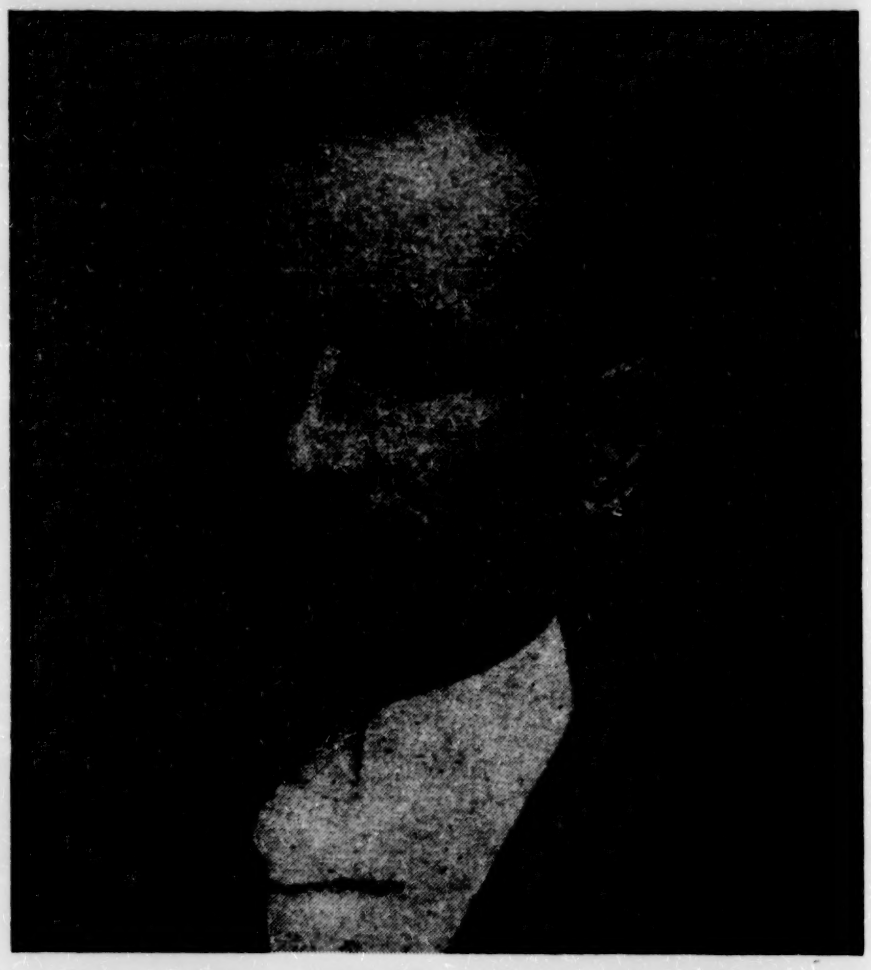
The physical progress of the Home has been a marvelous one in the span of fifty years. From twelve children, a single building and twenty-five acres the Home has expanded to include over three hundred and twenty children, more than fifty buildings and approximately eleven hundred and fifty acres. The nominal value at the beginning has increased until the physical plant and endowment of Barium Springs is worth $1,045,413.77.

In the above brief words is couched the material progress that has been made but behind this ever-increasing value of buildings, land and endowment there is a glowing history that redounds to the Synod of North Carolina and to the thousands upon thousands of people who have played their part in this advancement. To some special individuals who have been endowed with wealth can be found living memorials which have been made possible by their wise use of material possessions entrusted to their care and to their administration of these monies.

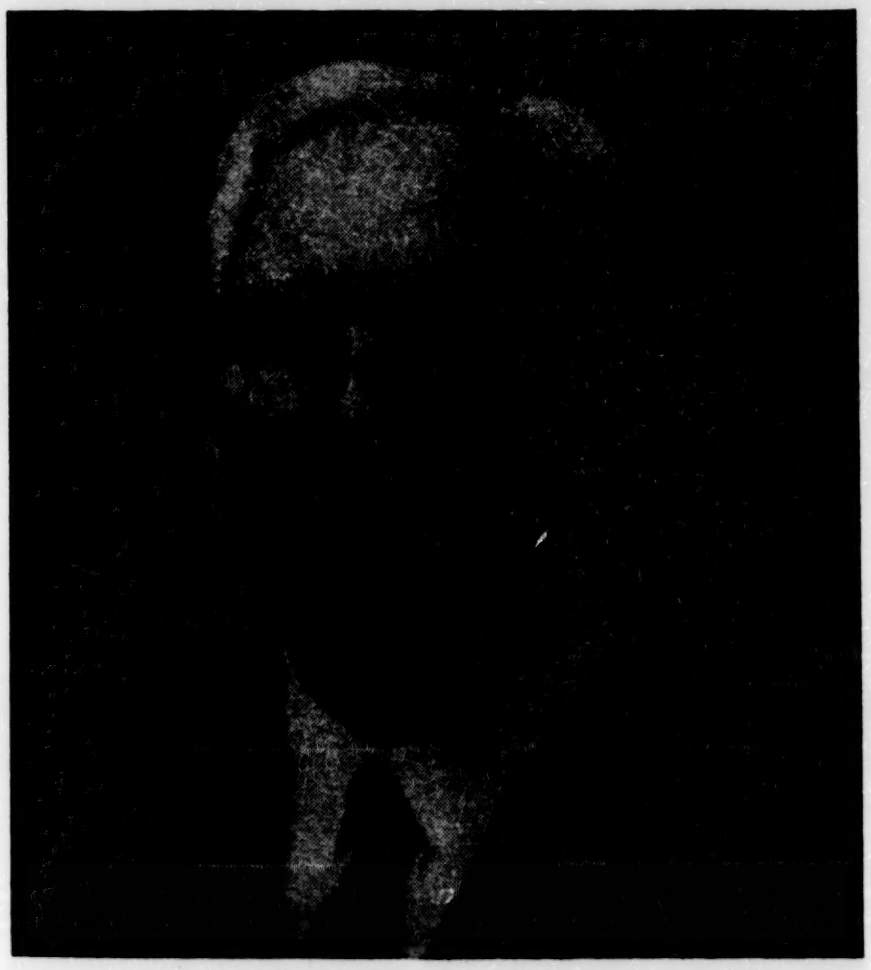
The Home at Barium Springs was established on January 11, 1891, but there was a preliminary history. The purchase of a building with twenty-five adjoining acres and the coming of children to Barium Springs was preceded by a private home for boys and girls established in Charlotte in 1883 and which was supervised by some ladies in that city until Synod decided to establish a permanent Orphans' Home at the present locality. The building purchased was a two-story wooden structure, formerly used as a hotel, which stood on the site of the present Rumple Hall. In November of 1891 this building was completely destroyed by a fire and the children were housed temporarily in Statesville until plans could be made for another building at Barium Springs.



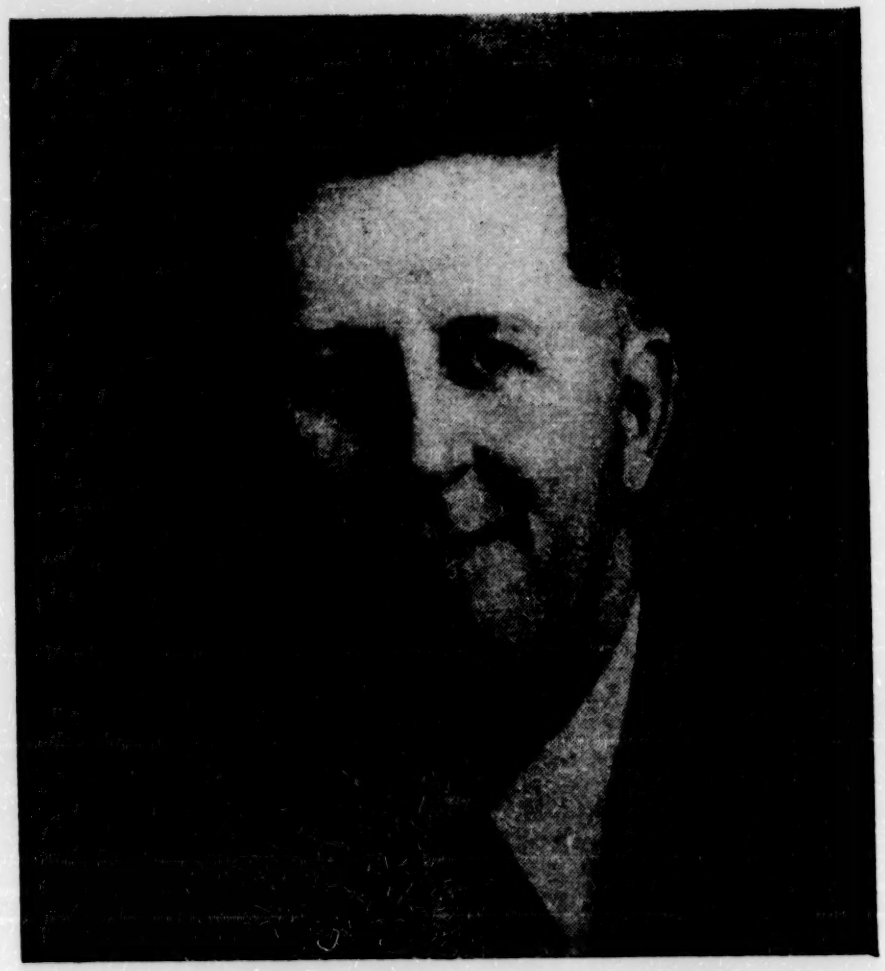
The first superintendent of the Presbyterian Orphans' Home was Rev. R. W. Boyd, D. D. He served for seventeen years - 1891 until 1908.



From 1908 to 1910 Rev. John Wakefield was superintendent. He was also the first pastor of Little Joe's Church.



Rev. W. T. Walker was superintendent from 1910 to 1920 - a period of ten years. From 1920 to 1922, E. McS. Hyde was acting superintendent.



Since July, 1922, Jos. B. Johnston has been superintendent and has the distinction of having served the longest — over nineteen years.

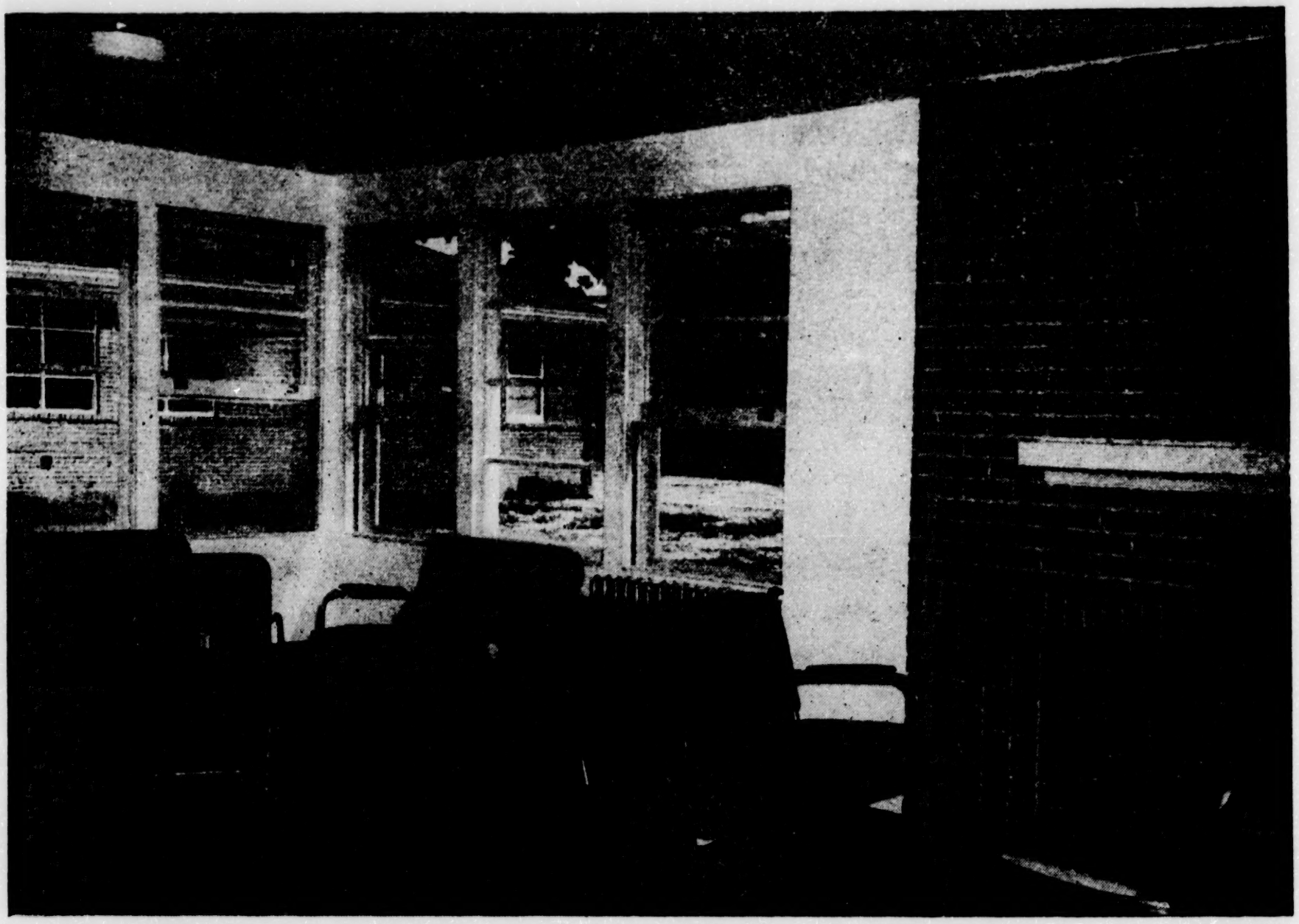
An interior view of Little Joe's Church, with the present pastor, Rev. T. C. Cook, (inset). On the right wall is a memorial plaque to the first pastor of the Church. Near the pulpit can be seen the white baptismal font. The front cover of this history is the scene, "Christ Blessing Little Children" from one of the three memorial windows placed in Little Joe's Church in the spring of 1941.

Mr. George Watts, of Durham, challenged Synod to give a sum of money for a building, promising to give a like amount for another cottage. Synod accepted his challenge and Mr. Watts immediately gave the money for the construction of the present Annie Louise Cottage, built in 1892 and named for his only daughter, Annie Louise Watts, who was the late Mrs. John Sprunt Hill. Before this was completed Synod's Cottage was under way and it was likewise finished in 1892.

Without going into elaborate detail, the following is the history of the buildings:

In 1894 the same Mr. Watts gave an Infirmary to the Home. This is now occupied as a residence, having been moved from its former location on the site where the Baby Cottage now stands.

In 1897 Rumple Hall, without its present first- and second-floor wing additions, was built by contributions of Synod and named for Rev. Jethro Rumple, D. D., of Salisbury,



This is a view of part of the living room in one of the new cottages. Notice the home touch in the form of an open fireplace. All living and bedroom furnishings and beds for the sleeping porches were furnished with sums voluntarily contributed by friends and organizations. Through the windows of the living room can be seen outlines of two other cottages.

legacy money being used for this purpose.

In 1924 Jennie Gilmer Cottage was constructed with a bequest of Miss Virginia Gilmer, of Greensboro, and gifts from Mr. C. W. Johnston, of Charlotte, and Mr. P. Pearsall, of Wilmington.

In 1924 the Baby Cottage was donated by Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Stowe, of Belmont.

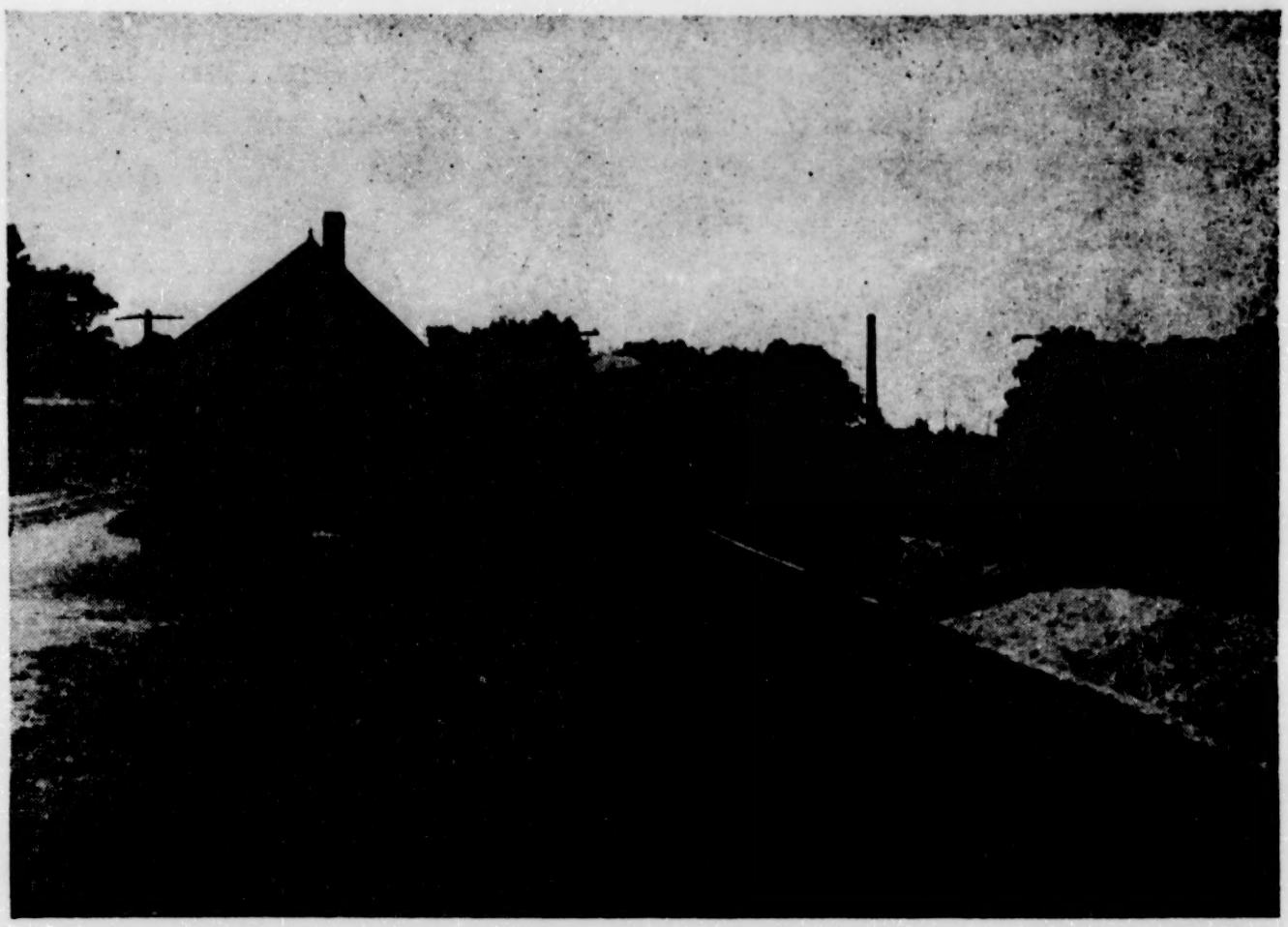
In 1925 the manse was built, the W. R. Burwell legacy making this possible. It is known as the Burwell Building.

In 1926 the grammar school building was built through the generosity of Mr. W. N. Reynolds, of Winston-Salem, and Mrs. Cameron Morrison, of Charlotte.

In 1941 a cottage was built by the Woman's Auxiliary of the North Carolina Synod.

In 1941 Mr. W. Z. Stultz, of Charlotte, gave the necessary money for a cottage at Barium Springs.

In 1941 Mrs. Mary Wallace Lee and Miss Nancy Wallace gave a cottage in memory of their father and mother, Mary Borden and Oliver Terrell Wallace, of Wilmington.



Several things are revealed in this picture. There is the postoffice through which passes many thousands of pieces of mail annually and through which the gifts to the Home are received. In the foreground is the farm crew unloading lime for the alfalfa fields. In the distance is the towering smokestack of the central heating plant.

In 1941 Mrs. Adelaide Cannon Blair, of Washington, D. C., gave a cottage in memory of her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cannon, of Concord.

(The above four cottages constitute a quadrangle which is known as the high school village for boys. These are all one-story cottages, which indicates the trend in building for such Homes nowadays, in contrast to the three-story structures that were originally erected.)

In 1941 Mr. Franklin Avery Sherrill, of Statesville, gave the necessary money for the construction of a printing office and shoe shop building in memory of his wife, Jennie White Sherrill. All of the machinery, for which Mr. James Sloan, of Redlands, Calif., was entirely responsible through his donations for printing office equipment, was transferred from Alexander Cottage to the new structure.

It is an interesting sidelight commentary that all of the buildings at Barium Springs, with a few exceptions, have been donated by individuals or built with legacies left to the Home.

While these principal buildings were being constructed land was being acquired in the neighborhood of Barium Springs and upon some of these properties were residences. In addition to the old infirmary, the Burwell Building, Boyd Cottage and the Superintendent's Cottage, all of which are used as residences, the Home is also owner of resi-

dences occupied by the farm superintendent, the orchard manager, the truck farm manager, the chicken farm manager, the purchasing agent and a house occupied by one of the teachers. Each new cottage built in 1941 has an apartment in it.

THE SUPERINTENDENTS

In the fifty-year history of the Home there have been only four superintendents and one acting superintendent. Three of these have had long tenures of offcie. The first

Some of the girls in the Baby Cottage making up their beds after their afternoon nap. The pensive-looking youngster (second from left) is a comparative newcomer and was watching an older child show her how it is done.

superintendent was Rev. R. W. Boyd, D. D., who served from 1891 to 1908; Rev. John Wakefield was superintendent from 1908 to 1910 and was also the first pastor of Little Joe's Church. Rev. W. T. Walker directed affairs as superintendent from 1910 to 1920. Mr. E. McS. Hyde was acting superintendent from 1920 to 1922. Mr. Jos. B. Johnston, incumbent, has been superintendent since July, 1922. Mr. Johnston has the distinction of serving as superintendent for the longest period of time - over 19

years - and has been head of the Home during its greatest period of expansion.

LITTLE JOE'S CHURCH

One of the most frequent questions asked is, "Why do you call this Little Joe's Church"? It therefore seems fitting that a particular section should be devoted to the incident which has played such a tremendous part in the life of the Home at Barium Springs.

In the early days there was no Church here, the children walking to Troutman, which was a mile and a half away. The smaller ones naturally could not walk that distance and they remained at Home. Joe Gilland, a little six-year old fellow when he entered in 1901, frequently voiced a desire to build a Church at Barium Springs with two porches on it when he became a big man. He was stricken suddenly and died on February 1, 1904. In going through his limited possessions a purse was found in which was 45 cents which he had saved toward the building of his dream church.

The story of Joe Gilland's life and his ambition was told throughout Synod by Dr. Boyd, then Superintendent of the Home. Money began flowing in in large and small amounts and in 1906 the building of the Church was begun. It was finished in late 1907 and because it began with the gift of 45 cents from Joe Gilland it has been called "Little Joe's Church" in his honor. He is buried on property here in what is known as "Little Joe's Cemetery". He was the first child buried at Barium Springs, though two had pre-

These fellows, who also live in the Baby Cottage, had already made up their beds following their afternoon's rest and were out playing in the sand when the photographer strolled by and snapped this one.

One of forty-six tables regularly used in the dining room. The photographer asked these Synod Cottage youngsters to stop "working" for a few moments and "watch the birdie." Others at the next table obliged also. Children who normally occupied the vacant table in the rear were on vacation.

viously died and were buried elsewhere.

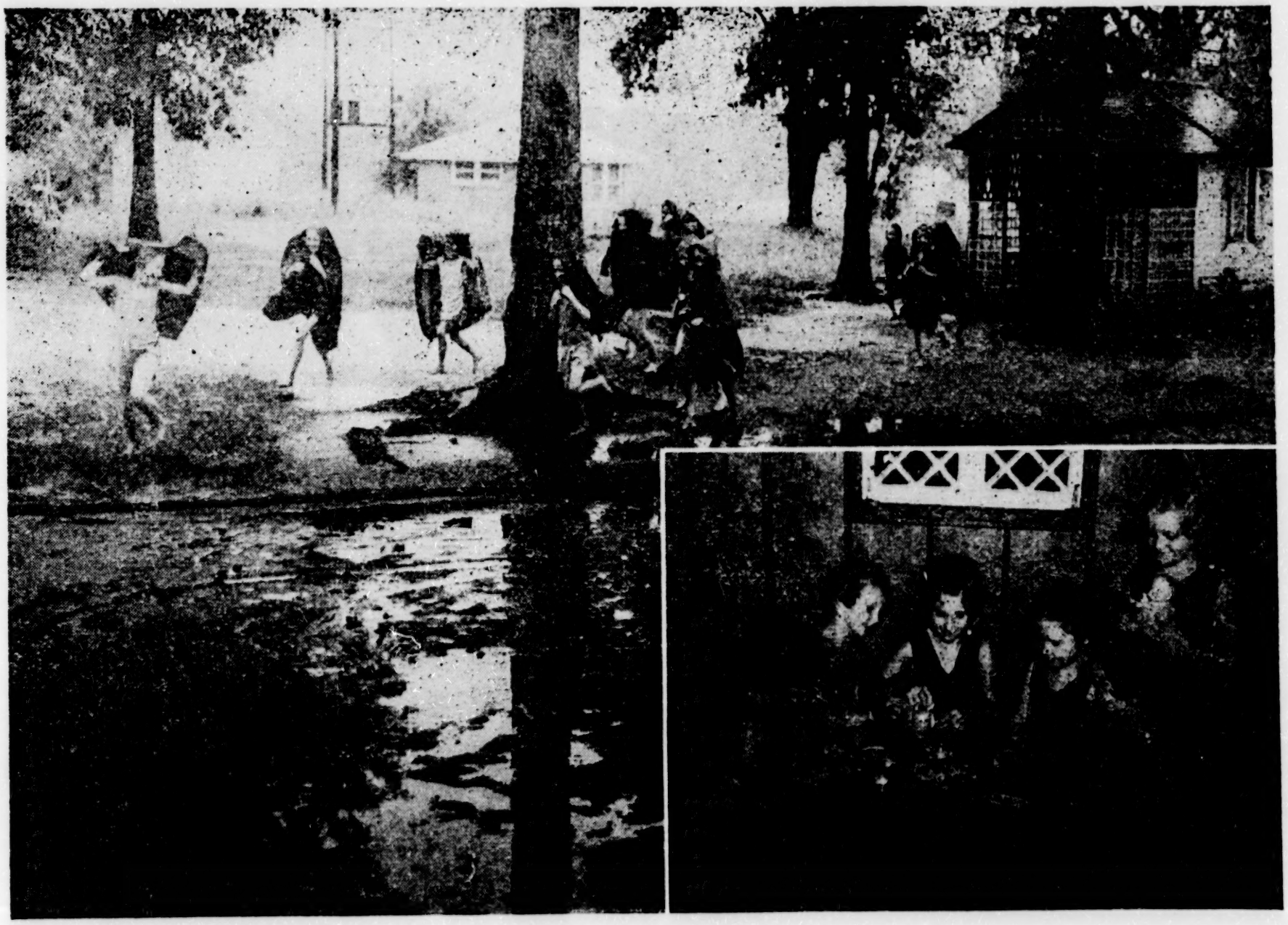
Two memorial windows given by Mrs. H. L. Moore, and one memorial window given by Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Anderson, all of Cramerton, added considerably to the church in the spring of 1941.

THE CHILDREN AT BARIUM

As has been recounted at the outset, the original number at Barium Springs was a dozen children. As new buildings were constructed, the population increased and it was

in the neighborhood of 225 in 1920 when Synod authorized an expansion program of $100,000.00 annually for buildings. This was never completed, but in anticipation of additional structures the children were accepted into Barium Springs and an over-crowded condition existed when there were 360 children here. The peak enrollment reached 377 in one of those months and it was a very over-crowded Home in 1929. At that time there were double-decker beds in the rooms, a vacant house was utilized for boys and some were placed in the Superintendent's home. Also, there was not the proper ventilation in some of the cottages.

When the double-decker beds were eliminated, when the residence which the boys facetiously called "the Country Club" was utilized for a family, when the boys were taken out of the Superintendent's home and when additional doors were cut into certain buildings, the peak population gradually lessened until the normal capacity was 320. For a while the number of children here hovered around the 300 mark, but in more recent years this has been in the neighborhood of 325. There has usually been more girls



The inset shows the Annie Louise girls serving tea in their little doll house given by a friend. Immediately afterward these and others started for their cottage in a downpour of rain. They are "detouring" around puddles. In the upper right is a picture of their doll house and the other building in the rear is the spring house where milking utensils are scalded.

than boys because the dormitory space for girls was of greater capacity. However, with the construction of the quadrangle of cottages in 1941, the space for girls and boys has been equalized.

ACCEPTANCE OF CHILDREN

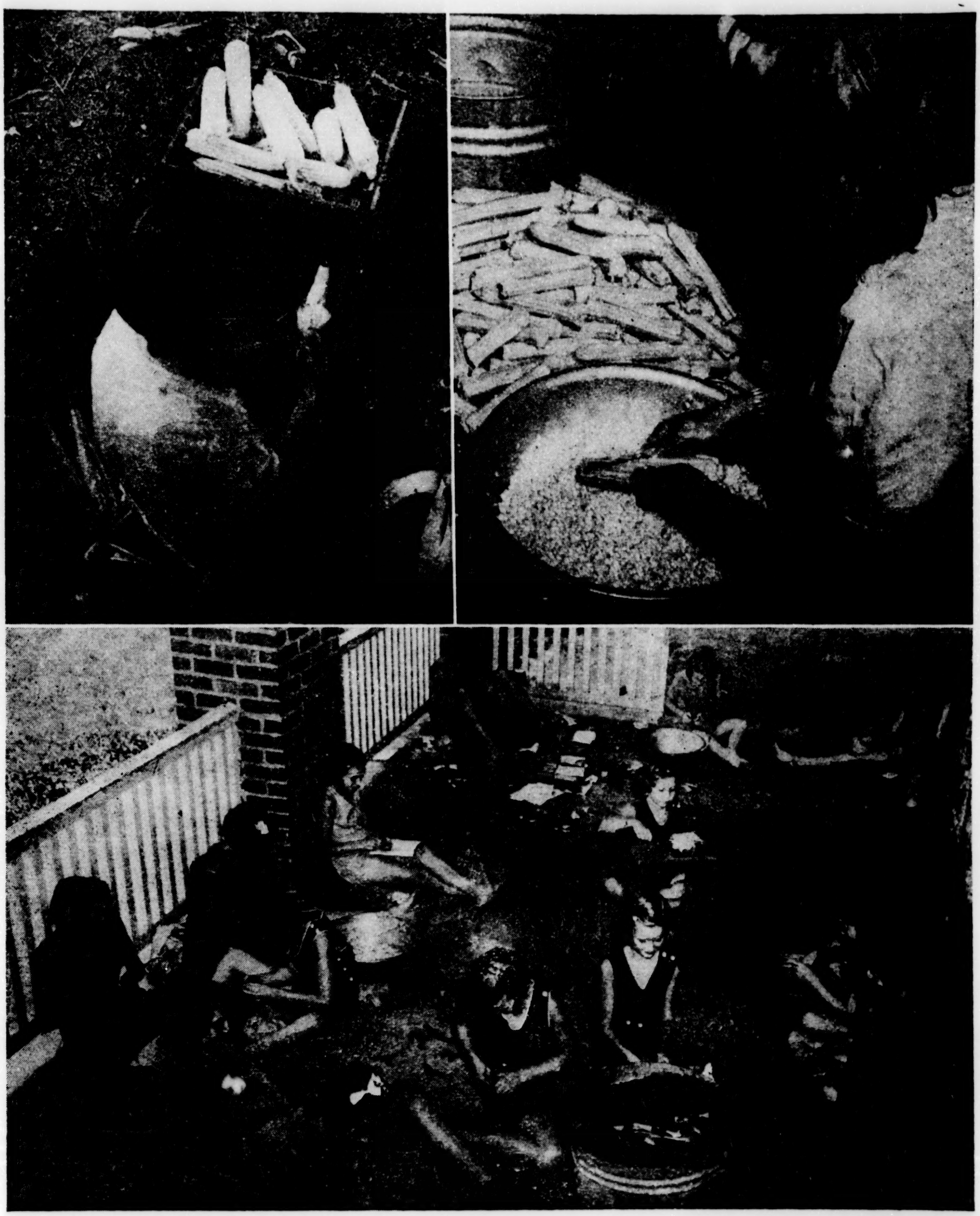
Few children are accepted into the Home under two years of age or over twelve years. While there is a Baby Cottage here, it is not a building for infants, for the Home is not equipped for taking care of those children who are too small to walk. The youngest children known to have been accepted were eighteen months old. Children over twelve years of age find difficulty in adjusting themselves to the life at Barium. However, there is no iron clad rule about this for exceptions are made in certain cases.

FINANCIAL

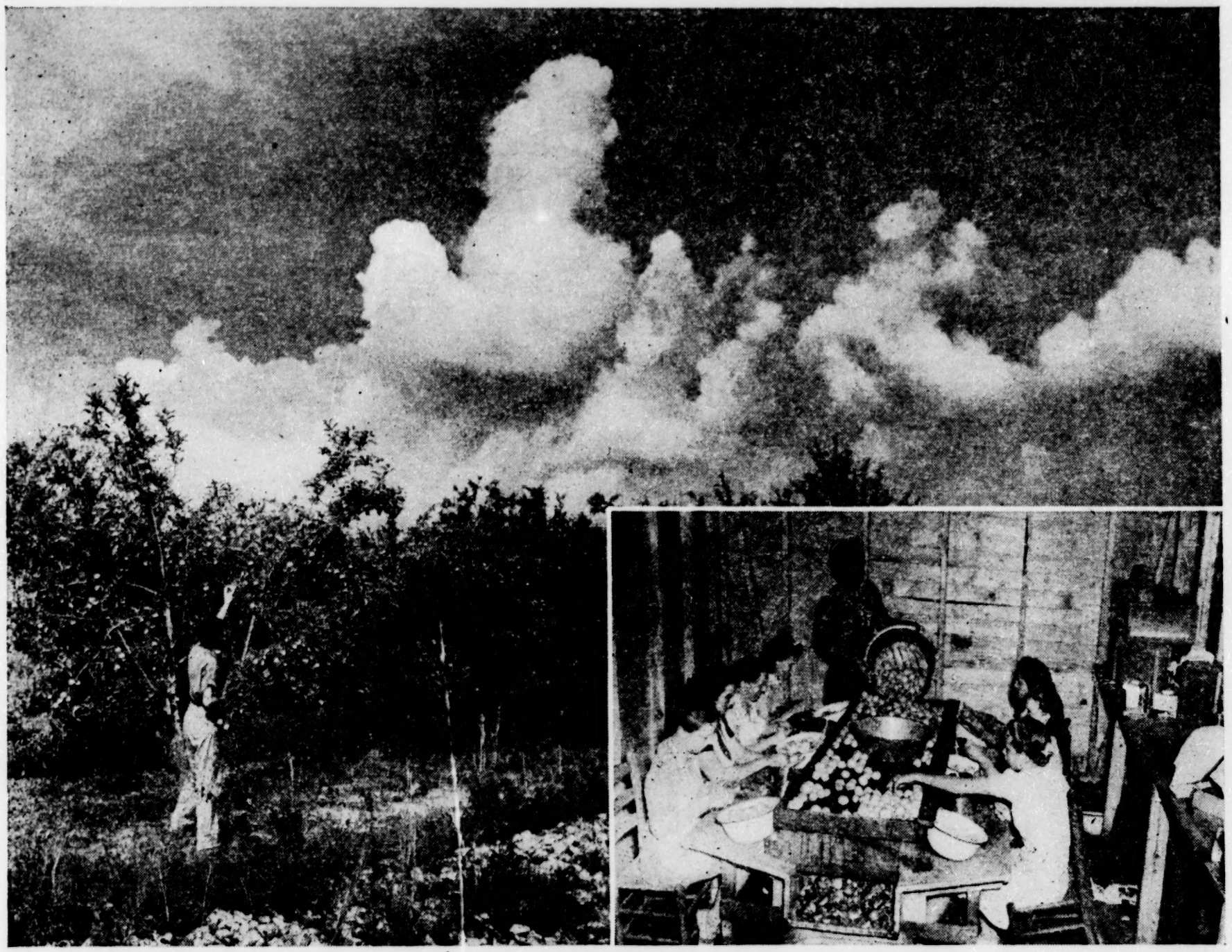
At the end of the 1940-1941 fiscal year the auditor's report showed that the land, livestock, equipment, buildings and endowment of the Home aggregated $1,045,413.77. All of the physical plant has come through the generosity of friends and in addition to this material growth there have been hundreds of thousands of dollars necessary to provide for the day-by-day, month-by-month and year-by-year needs of the children. Over 85 per cent of the money annually used in operation is contributed income. The greatest resource that Barium Springs has is the friendship and loyalty of Presbyterian friends, these characteristics making possible an annual contributed amount of over $100,000.00.

These two young ladies had had their tonsils removed the day before and had come back home to the Sprunt Infirmary to recuperate under the watchful eyes of the nurse. At least two dozen tonsilectomies are performed annually. The usual run of diseases "strike" the Barium campus.

The latter figure is the income which Presbyterian friends have been giving the Home during the past several years. During the depression, the sum donated was considerably less, the support fund receipts having tumbled from $109,372.03 in 1927-1928 to $67,-



Food preparation. Shucking corn, cutting it and shelling butterbeans are pictured above.



One of the boys plucking fruit from a portion of the 100 acres in peaches and apples. Inset shows a corps of people cutting up the peaches at the cannery. The bin is never empty at the peak of the season, for a group of orchard boys keeps pouring them in after the peeling is taken off with a weak solution of lye. Usually about 3,500 one-gallon cans of peaches are set aside for winter use. Many other surplus food products are canned.

106.45 in 1933-1934. The annual gifts of Synod gradually climbed upward until it has reached somewhat of a stable figure in the past few years.

Having no reserves upon which to call but still having the children that had to be fed, clothed, sheltered and provided for, the Home was the victim of financial circumstances during the depression and accumulated an indebtedness that reached a peak of $107,490.74 in 1933-1934. Because of the generosity of friends and a great deal of hard and tedious work on the part of individual members of special committees authorized and appointed by Synod, the indebtedness no longer exists. The mortgage of $61,000.00 was paid off in February of 1937 and other small long-time debts were liquidated. The Home has been operating within its income since that time and has remained

absolutely free of debt. There are current obligations that pile up during an eight-month period of light receipts, but these are always obliterated after the annual Thanksgiving Offering arrives.

Filling the crates with tomatoes which will be consumed at the table or find themselves served as tomato juice or appearing in soups. Those "specks" at the top are other boys picking tomatoes out in the field - a part of the 100 acres in the "garden" at Barium.

Since so much of Synod's giving comes in a concentrated period, what is needed here is a revolving fund of at least $25,000.00 to meet the summer-time needs until the Thanksgiving Offering is made. If the giving of Synod could one year be extraordinarily large, this fund might be established, to be replenished for the following summer's needs when the next Thanksgiving season arrived. This would not be a constantly-building up surplus in the operating fund, but would be limited to its description of "revolving". Through unrestricted legacies in recent years there was the sum of over $8,000.00 in 1940-1941 as a beginning toward such a step which would enable the Home to be on cash basis, taking advantage of all discounts offered and saving hundreds of dollars annually in the operation of it. Some saving is being enacted for a few months each year, but other discounts cannot be taken.

A section of the milking barn and boys obtaining some of the 125 gallons of milk daily consumed. Usually about 45 cows are milked and each boy has three cows to claim his attention.

The Thanksgiving season each year is of vital importance to the Home since the amount annually contributed in this period of thankfulness is 50 per cent - slightly more or slightly less - of the aggregate donated by Synod in a year's duration. The Home could not very well operate without the Thanksgiving Offering, though officials oftentimes

Layout of the Camp

PRESBYTERIAN ORPHANS' HOME
Barium Springs, N. C.

(11)

(24)

(2)

(1)

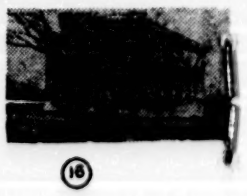
(10)

(9)

(8)

(25)

(23)



(16)

(15)

(17)

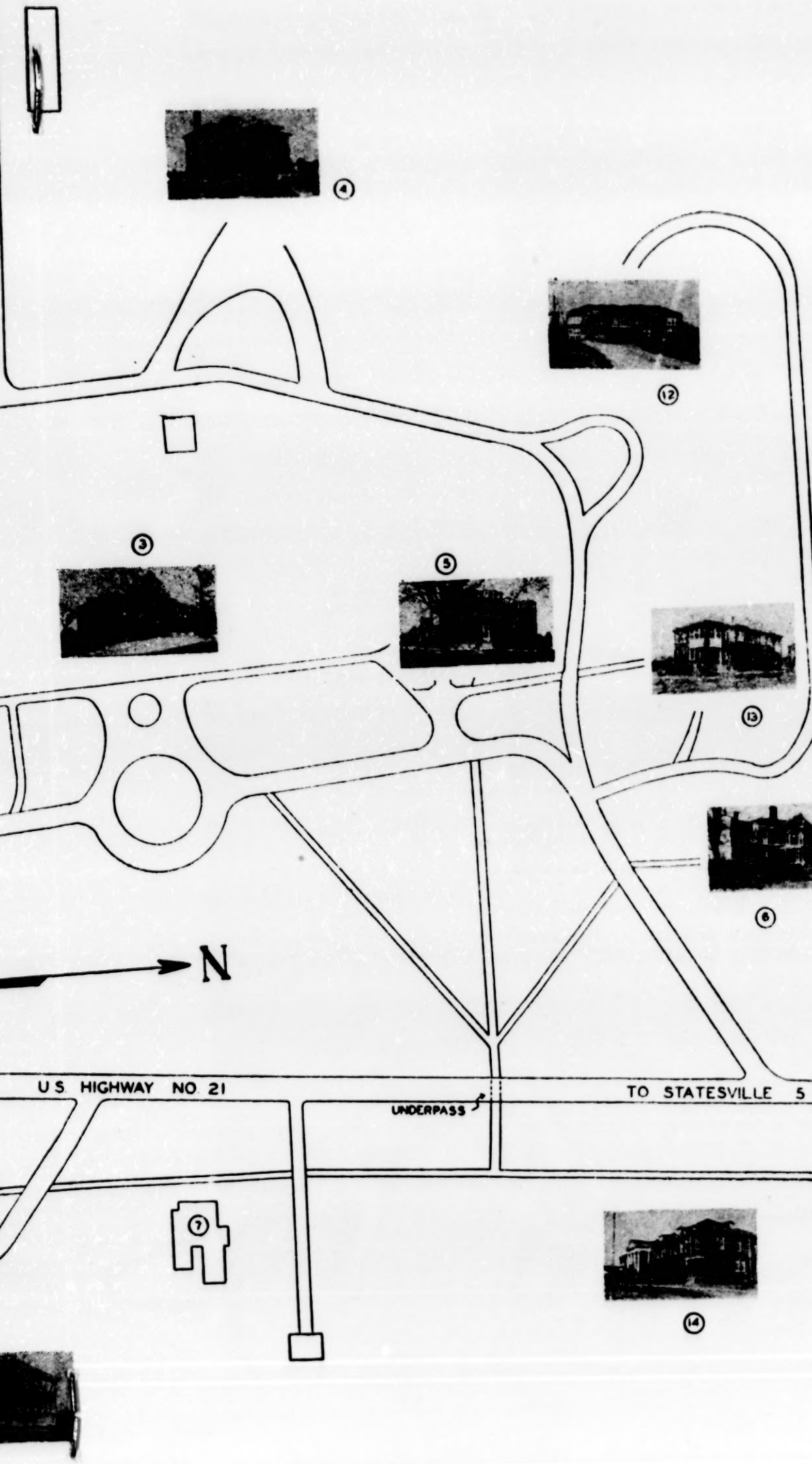
(18)

TO CHARLOTTE 38 MILES

UNDERPASS

US H

mpus at Barium Springs



LEGEND

(1) Lee's Cottage
(2) Synod Cottage
(3) Rumple Hall
(4) Alexander Building - Industrial
(5) Annie Louise Cottage
(6) Howard Cottage
(7) Boyd Cottage - Milton Residence
(8) Office
(9) Little Joe's Church
(10) High School Building
(11) Jennie Gilmer Cottage
(12) Infirmary
(13) Baby Cottage
(14) Lottie Walker Building - Woman's
(15) Power House
(16) Laundry
(17) Garage
(18) Pump
(19) Pump House
(20) Swimming Pool
(21) Grier House
(22) Grammar School Building
(23) Garage
(24) New Quadrangle
(25) Sherrill Printing Office

wish that the $45,000.00 and more that has been coming at Thanksgiving-time during the past several years could be distributed over a period of twelve months, for such would enable a more equitable meeting of obligations that are inevitably incurred regularly throughout a fiscal period.

Those tomatoes appear again, but they are in the kitchen now and the group of girls cooking dinner are slicing them for the tables. Approximately four bushels are necessary for a meal. This is a small phase of the kitchen work in serving meals three times a day and 365 days in the year.

By an act of the Board of Regents a few years ago, one-half of unrestricted legacies are being placed in a sinking fund to take care of any future emergencies should conditions lead to a drastic reduction in the contributions. The Regents recalled that during the last depression Barium's receipts from Synod tumbled $23,234.07 in one year and kept on dropping from a peak amount of $109,372.03 until it was as low as $67,-106.45 - a difference of $42,265.58. This sinking fund from gifts left in wills can be utilized when such contingencies develop in the future.

The endowment of the Home of $219,817.72 has been accumulated through bequests. It is an interesting commentary that the endowment has increased $80,561.05 in the past decade, which is indicative of the thoughtfulness and consideration and generosity of Presbyterian friends when their last wills and testaments have been prepared. In this connection, almost three quarters of a million dollars has been bequeathed to the Home here since it was originally established. Most of the unrestricted sums have been used in capital expenditures.

THE CHILDREN

Most important of all things at Barium Springs are the children and their welfare is

the primary concern of everyone connected with the Home. The object is to turn out well-rounded Christian citizens - boys and girls who are equipped to take their place in the world and who are fortified with character.

Throughout the years the children have played a vital part in the maintenance of their Home. Through the avenue of work they feel as if they are having the same part as an individual in doing tasks around a private home. The work at Barium Springs is manifold in nature and with the exception of the skilled departments, the boys and girls "run" the gamut of all kinds of training.

Children under ten years of age have few tasks to perform but from then on until their graduation they have a regular schedule of work and this not only fits them for life

In less than five minutes the trek in the dining room will start and the Rumple Hall girls are putting the food on the tables. This set of girls gains more weight than any other group. Perhaps it's the many steps they take daily that gives them a good appetite.

but means a great deal to the Home in dollars and cents, if someone were paid to do all of the work that is performed by them.

THE GIRLS' WORK

The first work of a major nature for the girls is stringing beans and shelling peas. This is done by the Howard Cottage occupants, who call themselves the "bean-stringers". During the bean season the girls can be found preparing this food on many afternoons. An effort is made to can 500 gallons of string beans annually, but even with their skill, extra help is needed when the height of the bean season is under way.

From Howard Cottage the girls go to Rumple Hall. This building, by the way, is generally known as capitol hill, for it is the place where the children assemble three times a day for their meals. The Rumple Hall girls wait on the tables, wash the dishes and set the tables for the next meal. It has been remarked that a ton and a half of dishes are washed every day; the Rumple Hall Girls will contend that this is under-estimating it! This particular group of girls do more walking than any other set of children, and yet they gain more weight than any other set of girls. The theory has been advanced that they walk so much in the long dining room that they work up an avaricious appetite and consequently eat more after the others have been served.

From Rumple Hall the girls go to the Lottie Walker Building, or the Woman's Building. As ninth graders they generally work in the laundry. This is exceptionally strenuous work as these girls during the summertime are responsible for laundering clothes for a family of over 300 boys and girls. In the winter time colored help is in the laundry for four days until 3:30 p. m., the girls having two hours in the afternoon for work after school.

The tenth grade girls are the cooks and assist the matrons in various cottages. It is quite a task to cook for 350 people, for the number of children is augmented by matrons, workers and teachers who are unmarried and do not live in private homes. When the girls leave Barium Springs and are married it is quite a come-down to cook for two people, whereas they have been used to preparing meals for 350. A domestic science department in the high school, the equipment for which was supplied by Wilmington Presbyterial, however, gives them training along this line. Some girls have the responsibility of breakfast, others the noonday meal and still others for supper.

Assisting the matrons is not confined simply to the tenth grade, for there are always two girls helping the matron with the boys at the Baby Cottage and two helping the matron of the girls in the same building. There are five girls who are assigned to the Infirmary and two other girls who help at Synod's Cottage. These are placed in these build-

It is hoped that no ladies will get home-sick in looking over this scene snapped in the dish-washing room after dinner. It has been estimated that a ton and a half of dishes are washed daily. These girls think that is grossly under-estimated.

ings because of their particular ability in handling children.

The final work done by a girl at Barium Springs is in the sewing room. Many of the smaller children are clothed direct, i. e., the clothes are made locally and sent to Barium Springs. All of the older ones and some of the smaller ones are provided for with money sent to the Home, and it is the duty of the girls in the eleventh grade to sew for these children. Before the cap and gown was used for graduation, it was required that each girl make her graduation dress as her final bit of work before leaving the Home.

Almost all of the clothes worn by the larger girls are made in the sewing room and these have been greatly admired by friends who visit Barium Springs.

By way of explanation, there is no uniform used by the children. Occasionally the smaller boys and girls will have play suits somewhat similar and girls working in the sewing room, the laundry, the kitchen, etc., can be seen wearing smocks. These are simply to save their good dresses, for after the day's tasks are over the girls discard the smocks and put on their regular dresses.

TASKS PERFORMED BY BOYS

The work of the boys is somewhat more varied, though the duties of the Baby Cottage boys and those in Synod's are similar to those of the girls under ten years of age at Annie Louise and at the Baby Cottage. The job of the Baby Cottage children is to brush their teeth twice a day, make up their beds and have a good time. The same applies to the boys at Synod's Cottage.

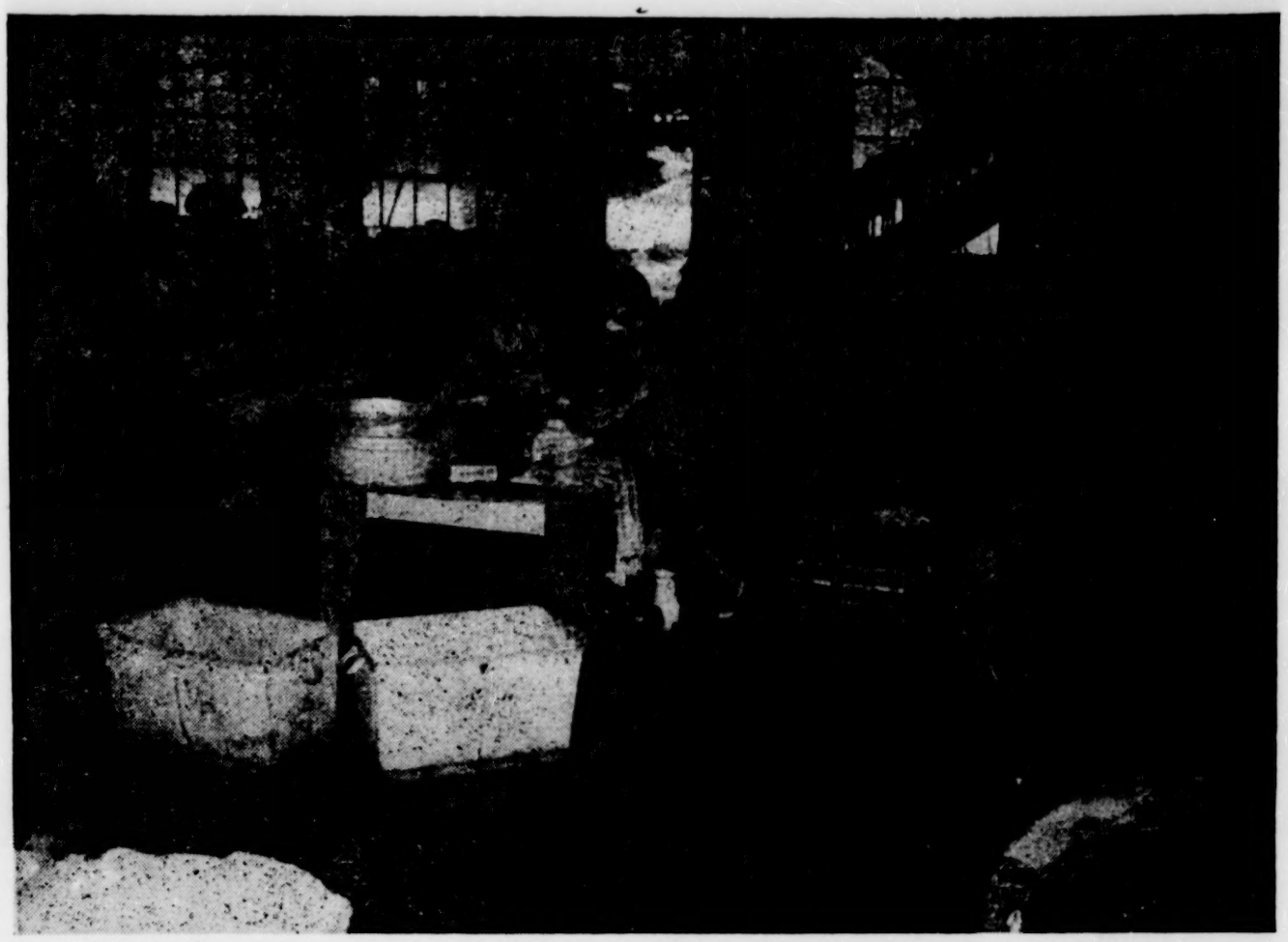
Girls making clothes. That is the task of the seniors. Money sent for clothes is used to buy material and these girls do the rest. Inset in lower left is a close-up of one of the girls. The major scene shows only a fragment of the sewing room.

When they are promoted to Lees' or Jennie Gilmer Cottage definite assignments begin. The boys at Jennie Gilmer are largely made up of those who work at the dairy, having the task of obtaining from the cows the 125 gallons of milk a day which are consumed. Those at Lees' are mainly truck farm boys - chaps who help raise food products in the 100-acre garden which is necessary at the Home. Possibly some of the boys of this age are assigned to the orchard group and those boys who are to be in skilled departments are allotted their tasks early and continue in the same phase of work here.

Those in the new quadrangle of cottages constructed in the semi-centennial year at Barium Springs are scattered over several groups, with the principal and major detachment being with the big farm - a farm that is comprised of 500 acres in cultivation from which wheat, corn, barley, oats, rye, hay, lespedeza, crimson clover and kindred products

are obtained.

There is a printing office crew which assists in publishing and issuing 25,000 copies of The Barium Messenger each month and which prints all of the needed office supplies, posters, pamphlets, booklets and other materials used in publicizing the Home. In the basement of the printing office is the shoe shop where other boys are assigned and can obtain training in this department.



After the clothes are made, they must be kept clean and that is the job of the girls assigned to the laundry (mostly ninth grade girls). In the lower right are two big washing machines and beyond those are a wringer and a dryer. Flat work is done at the mangle, but a lot of the ironing is done by hand.

A "gang" of boys work under the supervision of the carpenter and develop as painters, carpenters, etc. This is an extremely busy group in the summer when the annual repair program is under way.

Another group is with the master mechanic. This department has much to do with electric appliances, the water system, the firing of boilers and the heating system at Barium Springs.

The orchard crew not only looks after the spraying of the trees and the gathering of the fruit but has considerable to do with canning. In a normal year approximately 5,000 gallons of surplus food products, both from the orchard and truck farm, are canned for winter consumption and in bumper years this may even exceed 6,000 gallons, as it did in the summer of 1941. There are 100 acres here in peaches, apples and other fruits.

It will be seen from the above that the work of the boys and girls supplement and complement one another and that a vast amount of detail is necessary in the operation of all departments and phases of work at the Home. This is acceptably done through an efficient corps of departmental heads, who not only have the responsibility of training

the boys and girls in their particular field but also have the further responsibility of imparting to the children Christian principles of living.

While many food products are grown at Barium Springs, there are some things that cannot be raised. For instance, in a year's time, some of the approximate requirements are 28,000 pounds of sugar, 12,000 pounds of salt, 10,500 large size boxes of dry cereal (this is bought by cases), 1,000 large boxes of oatmeal, 1,800 large size boxes of grits, canned salmon, peanut butter, dry beans and many other things, the quantity of which can be guaged by the few specific figures given for some items above.

It takes approximately 1,000 tons of coal annually, the Home has to be publicized, insurance (fire, compensation and liability) must be carried, the physical plant kept in repair, a staff paid to supervise the departments and cottages at Barium, cost is attached to the operating of all departments and innumerable other expense items occur in a year's time.

THE CHURCH LIFE AT BARIUM SPRINGS

In the early days of the Home, as was seen from the story of the establishment of Little Joe's Church, there was no church edifice at Barium Springs and the children who were large enough worshipped in a Presbyterian Church at Troutman which necessitated a trek of a mile and a half and a similar distance upon the return trip. In 1907 Little Joe's Church was completed, on May 10, 1908 a Church was officially organized and for the first time in the history of the Home regular congregational services were held on the campus.

Rev. John Wakefield, the then superintendent of Barium Springs, was the first pastor of Little Joe's Church and served jointly as superintendent and pastor until his death.

Mr. Wakefield found that he could not acceptably and efficiently fill both posts and Rev. W. T. Walker had been called as pastor. Shortly before Mr. Walker came, Mr. Wakefield died. Mr. Walker was made superintendent and served as supply pastor until 1911 when Rev. W. M. Walsh, D. D., became pastor. He served until 1915. Rev. H. M. Parker, D. D. was pastor from 1916 to 1924, giving one-third of his time to Little Joe's.

From 1910 until 1924 - a period of fourteen years - Little Joe's Church was looked upon as a Home Mission Field and the two pastors, Dr. Walsh and Dr. Parker, devoted only part time to the congregation at Barium Springs, holding church services here in the afternoon. This was simply one of the several charges which they had and such a pastor was unable to minister completely to the needs of the flock when he did not live on the campus.

In 1925 Rev. W. C. Brown was obtained as a full-time pastor of Little Joe's and continued in this capacity until he resigned in the fall of 1937. Most of his salary was paid by the members of Little Joe's Church, the Presbyterian Orphans' Home making a supplement. Later on, though, this was eliminated. The congregation assumed full responsibility of current expenses while also giving a generous sum to all of the benevolent causes of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. Emphasis has always been placed upon financial aid to every cause, foreign missions perennially leading in the amount contributed.

The current pastor is Rev. Thomas C. Cook, who come to Barium Springs in February of 1938.

Most of the membership of the local church is made up of the children in the Home and the workers at Barium Springs. There are a few families from Troutman and the neighborhood who are affiliated with Little Joe's.

Sunday School exercises are held in three buildings - the high school building, the grammar school building and the church. The entire group assembles for closing exercises in the church

Some Future Building Needs at This Home

●

Remodeling and enlargement of the office, known as the Burroughs Building. Adequate and proper vault space is needed for financial records and case histories on the children. Present office arrangements do not lend themselves to efficiency and toilet facilities are acutely needed.

●

A recreational building. The only facilities for indoor recreation now is the auditorium of the grammar school building which is converted into a basketball court during the winter. The recreational building would have units in it for many forms of recreation suitable to all children here.

●

A new church with Sunday School rooms sufficient in quantity for all classes in the same building. Little Joe's Church, which was built to seat 300 comfortably, would not be abandoned, but it would be used for Young People's meetings and for prayer meetings.

●

A village for the tiny children, somewhat based on the order of the present quadrangle village for high school boys, except that this arrangement for the children under ten years of age would include a separate dining room for that group of boys and girls.

Some people call these the "lawn-mowers" at Barium Springs. They are good at that, wool is sheared from their bodies and they also appear on the table as meat later on. Two boys (only one appears in the picture) have the responsibility of shepherding the flock.

and the regular Sunday services of the congregation follow immediately. In addition to this, there are Young People's meetings during the school months, and when these disband at the close of school, there is a Sunday night service conducted under the auspices of the Young People, with the pastor preaching. The usual midweek prayer service is always held. Prayer services are held in the various cottages.

THE SCHOOLS AT BARIUM SPRINGS

Splendid facilities are available for the school work in the two buildings which were given by friends for this particular purpose. Until a few years ago a half-day system was followed in the school, i. e., half of the children would go to school in the morning

while the other portion worked. A reversed schedule existed in the afternoon. The morning period was from 7:30 until 12:00 and the afternoon session from 12:30 until 5:00. In more recent years the children have followed a schedule similar to schools in the city.

Boys and girls, if they show the ambition and display the ability to do so, are fortified with a high school education at Barium Springs. In the very early days of the Home there was an iron-clad rule that children had to leave when they were sixteen years of age, regardless of their preparation. However, such a rule is no longer in existence and the children receive their high school training here. Occasionally a child is accepted into the Home who has been retarded in his school work through neglect. If he or she were forced to leave when they reached a certain age, they would be penalized by the negligence of some older person.

There is no age limit for departure from Barium Springs, yet most of the children are graduating by the time they are eighteen years of age. This is quite a contrast to the trend of a good many years ago when some of the boys and girls were finishing at the age of 20 and 21 years.

In the high school building, otherwise known as the McNair Building, is a library of approximately 5,000 volumes. Most of them have been contributed over a period of years and some of them are now obsolete. Friends, though, are donating books all along and these are being added. Recent bequests from two generous friends have been stipulated for library purposes, which will make available a sum between $1,000.00 and $1,200.00 for the operation of the library and for the purchase of needed reference books in the school work.

The school at Barium is normal in every respect. The boys and girls here have their respective class organizations, their class colors, etc. There is a music club, a glee club, a bird club. The graduating class annually publishes a yearbook known as The Spotlight, this being printed in the local printing establishment. They also have their class plays and the usual friendly rivalry exists among the various groups.

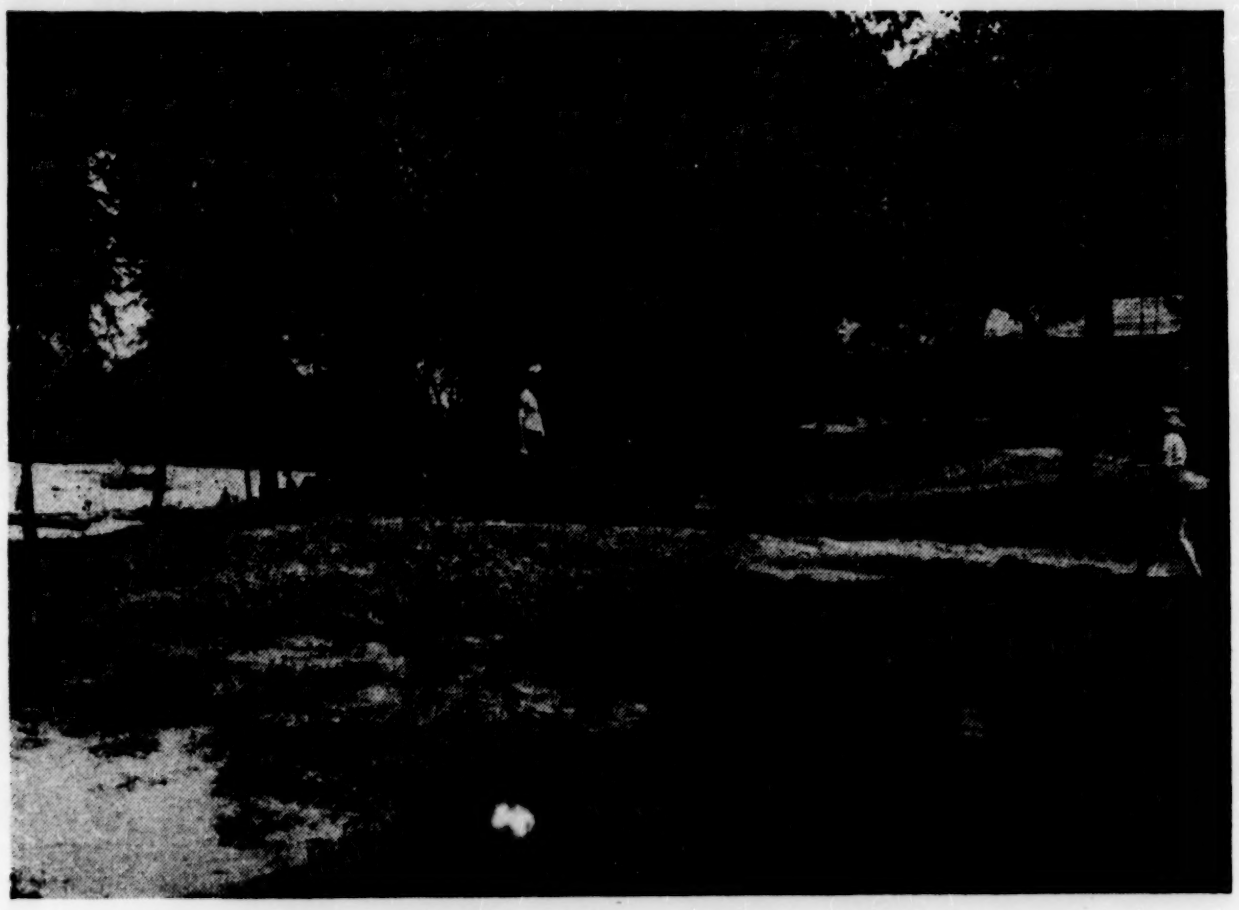
THE HEALTH OF THE CHILDREN

The health of the boys and girls at Barium Springs is a long story in itself, but suffice it to say that every precaution is taken to safeguard the health of the children and to develop them into strong physical specimens. Presbyterian friends should be exceedingly proud of the fact that there has been only one death in over fifteen years in a family of children that has averaged 325 in that span of time. There was a death in June, 1933. The record is therefore no death in a period of over eight years.

An annual health clinic is held in January. If the child gains normally in height and weight he or she is accepted as being in good physical trim. If a failure to increase in weight and height is noted that child goes back for another examination and the cause of retarding is located and immediately corrected. A tuberculin test clinic is held in conjunction with the annual examination and all strong reactors have their lungs X-rayed and experts view the pictures. Should an active tubercular case be found, that child is sent to the State Sanatorium at the Home's expense and remains there until the disease is allayed and the child pronounced as cured. There have been several instances when a child stayed at the Sanatorium several years, returning to graduate from the Home and finish here as the strongest and most robust of the graduates.

Everything possible is done to avoid disease. Children are innoculated, vaccinated and given the diptheria anti-toxin. A dentist thoroughly goes over the teeth of all children once a year and emergency dental work is done by dentists in nearby Statesville. Approximately 24 tonsilectomies are performed annually and there is the usual number of serious operations in a family of this size.

The Infirmary is sufficiently large to comfortably take care of 30 bed patients, though there have been emergency periods when far more than that were confined in that building. No operating is done in the local Infirmary, this being performed in a Statesville hospital. There is no resident physician, but one is available and always on call for emergencies, epidemics and general sickness. The Infirmary is supervised by a competent nurse.



A scene from Camp Fellowship on the Catawba River. This is a camp given by the Fellowship Club of the Second Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. In the rear can be seen one of the two barracks, between which is a kitchen and dining room. Look closely and you'll see that the horseshoe the young lady had pitched is headed for a ringer. On the river at the left are boats with children in them.

The health history of Barium Springs has gone a long way in recent years, the instituting of these health clinics shortly after Mr. Johnston became superintendent being a major factor in detecting diseases in their early stages and correcting them immediately. There have been a few deaths in the

family from tuberculosis, but these occurred before health clinics were started. Achievements along the health line have been most remarkable. The intercessory prayers of friends everywhere have had much to do with this health attainment.

RECREATION AT BARIUM SPRINGS

All work and no play makes a one-sided individual, and while there is a systematic work schedule for the boys and girls at Barium Springs, yet there is time available for recreation of various kinds. There are tennis courts for the boys and girls, there is a swimming pool given to the Home by Mr. J. C. Crowell, of Charlotte, soft ball and smaller game equipment is furnished various cottages, and there is a camp on the Catawba River, eight miles away which was given to the Home by the Fellowship Club of the Second Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. It is used for five weeks in the summer. Every boy and girl spends one week at the camp and those who do not go on vacation to relatives and friends have an extra week there.

These are not official members of the Barium family, but they finally become part of it after they have graduated into sausage from what is generally known as "Hog College".

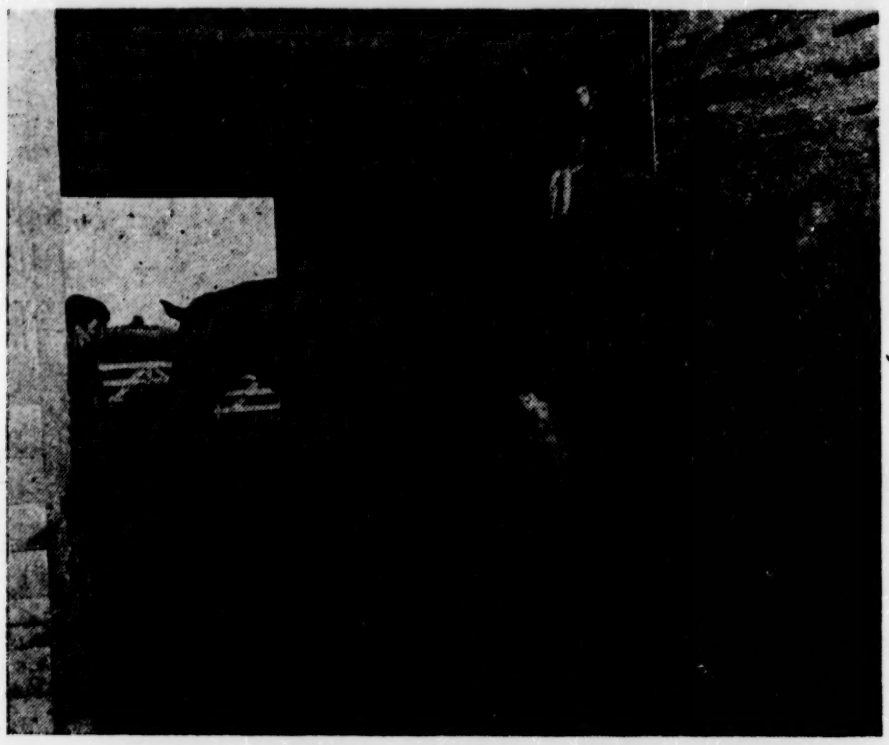
In addition to the above, there are various athletic contests between the cottages at Barium or between those in certain grades. There is outside competition with high schools in football and wrestling and in girls' and boys' basketball.

BOOK ON DEPARTMENTS RECOMMENDED

In this history of the Home a brief sketch has been given of some of the phases of this work. A comprehensive booklet on the detailed operation of twelve departments in the Home was written by Mr. Johnston, the current superintendent, a few years ago and this is heartily recommended for further enlightenment upon the inner-workings of the Home. Copies of this booklet can be obtained by writing to Barium Springs. It is one of the most exhaustive and useful printed documents that has ever been written about the Home and which has come off the Barium press.

THE WORD "HOME" IS EMPHASIZED

Throughout the writing of this history, the word, "Home" has been used entirely. Describing the Presbyterian Orphans' Home as an "Orphanage" or "institution" or "asy-



Apparently the colt looking on at the feeding of his mother is wondering when the time will arrive to be similarly fed. This was taken in the cattle barn and the colt was among the latest arrivals. Stock was formerly bought for the Barium farm, but is now raised.

lum" has not been used, for each of those words carries with it connotations that are not applicable to the Presbyterian Orphans' Home nor do those words describe the undertaking here. Picture shows and books have given the general public a misconception. A visit to the campus clears this up in a hurry.

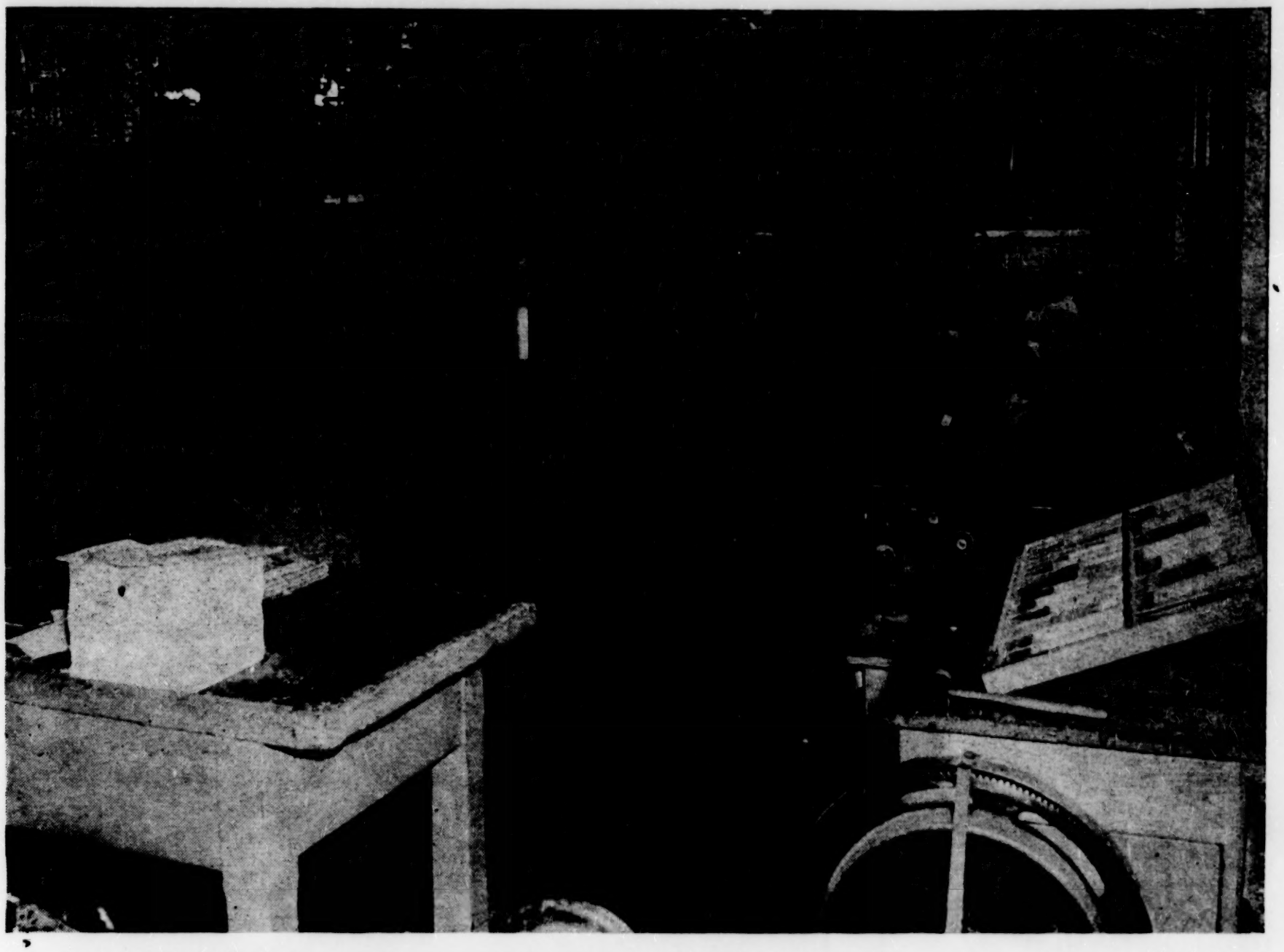
Foremost in the minds of officials is to make this a Home insofar as humanly possible when so many children are gathered together in one family. A notable trend in accomplishing this nowadays is the size of cottages being constructed as contrasted with those in the early existence of this Home. The first three buildings erected at Barium Springs were three-story affairs, while the four cottages built fifty years later have been one-story cottages - small enough to make a group of people feel as if they were one family and having in them a touch here and there that makes them homelike.

Most individuals in this world are proud of their private homes, no matter how humble they might be. It is the feeling at Barium Springs that this place should be so conducted that the children graduating from here or being in it for a short time can look upon this as one might feel toward a private dwelling in which a mother or father live.

The boys and girls of Barium Springs are proud of their Home and are glad to proclaim to the world that they are graduates. An effort is made to conduct it with the supporters in mind - friends whose earthly existence will some day be over and whose children might come to Barium Springs, should death occur early in life. People can ask themselves what kind of Home is being conducted here and what kind of treatment would my children receive if it became necessary for them to be accepted into it. Love, kindness, thoughtfulness, consideration and similar feelings actuate the conducting of all affairs at Barium Springs.

FORM OF BEQUEST

"I give and bequeath to the REGENTS OF THE ORPHANS' HOME OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Incorporated Under the laws of the state of North Carolina,* (HERE NAME THE BEQUEST.)



It is fitting that the scenic part of the history should close with a view of part of the Sherrill Printing Office where this history was printed, where 25,000 copies of The Messenger are issued every month and where thousands of other pieces of printed material annually come off the press. The printing department is a valuable adjunct in publicizing the Home.

The children are proud of their Home, the Presbyterians of the North Carolina Synod have a right to be proud of it, too, and may there be increased pride in future years - years in which this Home will continue to exist and take care of boys and girls into whose lives tragedies have come.

The task of this Home is to give normal existence to such children and to make their lives happy ones. In the process of accomplishing this there is provision to be made for food, shelter, clothing, secular and spiritual training and the development of strong, robust physical bodies. This Home is dedicated for that purpose and keeping this ever in view Presbyterians are urged to continue taking advantage of the privilege and the pleasure that they have in indirectly touching the lives of so many boys and girls and playing such a major role in them.

The past fifty years have been gratifying ones; the next fifty years are ahead.

May the next fifty years also be glorious and wonderful ones for dependent boys and girls - children whose sustenance and maintenance comes through the liberality and Christian love of Presbyterian friends.

The history has been simply recounted and the only comprehensive history would be a minute examination of the lives of those 2,020 children who have been nourished and nurtured here and who call this "Home".

Men and Women Who Have Served On The Board of Regents of the Presbyterian Orphans' Home

Hon. D. G. Fowle
Geo. E Chadburn
Rev. D. I. Craig, D. D.
S. H. Wiley
Col. Jno. L. Brown
Dr. M. W. Hill
Rev. John H. Boyd
P. M. Brown
Rev. Geo. H. Atkinson
Rev. Jno. H. Grey, Sr.
J. R. Young
A. M. Smyre
W. H. Sprunt
John R. Pharr
Rev. R. M. Williams
E. F. Murray
Geo. E Wilson, Sr.
Mrs. R. S. Abernethy
Mrs. J. E. Johnston
Mrs. J. Sprunt Hill
Mrs. C. E. Neisler
Rev. Wm. E. McIlwain, D. D.
G. M. Lore
Hon. A. M. Scales
Rev. W. R. McLellan
O. D. Davis
Geo. W. Watts
Rev. C. G. Vardell, D. D.
Dr. J. W. Hill
Rev. C. M. Richards, D. D.
Judge George Howard
Maj. Robt. Bingham
Mc. L. McKeithen
Rev. S. L. Cathey
Rev. J. H. Henderlite, D. D.
A. R. McEachern
Mrs. W. B. Ramsay
Mrs. Geo. Howard
Mrs. A. M. Fairley
Rev. D. T. Caldwell, Th.D.
Rev. Daniel Iverson
Rev. D. D. Boyd
Rev. Jethro Rumple, D. D.

Jno. E. Oates
Hon. A. Leazer
Rev. H. G. Hill, D. D.
S. C. Rankin
Rev. J. W. Stagg
J. C. Steele
W. H. Belk
Rev. W. R. Minter
O. D. Clark
W. M. Cumming
Dr. C. E. Adams
Rev. R. A. Lapsley, D. D.
Rev. A. S. Johnson, D. D.
C. A. Clark
Mrs. W. R. Grey.
Mrs. J. H. Suttenfield
Mrs. J. T. French
C. W. Johnston
Hon. Z. V. Turlington
O. L. Clark
W. A. Hart
Mrs. George R. Ward
Mrs. W. N. Reynolds
Mrs. W. R. Wearn
Mrs. W. E. Allen
Rev. J. S. Foster, D. D.
Mrs. E. F. Reid
Rev. C. E. Hodgin, D. D.
Rev. H. N. McDiarmid
Rev. W. H. Goodman
T. T. Smith
Hon. Charles G. Rose
Mrs. Thad Hussey
Mrs. S. A. Robinson
Mrs. Harvey White
Charles Brown
Rev. Edgar Woods
Mrs. R. M. Grey
Mrs. J. R. Page
Mrs. J. R. Finley
George E. Wilson, Jr.
B. W. Moseley
Mrs. I. F. Hill

Mrs. W. L. Wilson
Rev. R. C. Gilmore, D. D.
Rev. W. M. Currie
Mrs. J. E. Driscoll
Karl G. Hudson
Mrs. John Harper
Rev. W. M. Baker
Mrs. A. P. Thorpe
Rev. Eugene Alexander
Mrs. W. T. Clark
Mrs. W. E. White
Mrs. Z. V. Turlington
Rev. John R. Hay, D. D.
Rev. M. J. Murray
Mrs. H. A. Rouser
Mrs. L. A. McLaurin
Rev. J. R. McGregor, Th.D.
M. W. Norfleet
J. C. Crowell
W. B. Bradford
Stamps Howard
Rev. R. C. Clontz
Prof. J. W. Moore
Mrs. S. P. Stowe
Mrs. Plato Monk
Rev. Chester Alexander
Mrs. J. A. Hartness
Mrs. George Norfleet
J. S. McKnight
W. H. Holderness
Mrs. J. M. Walker
S. Parks Alexander
Rev. S. H. Fulton
Miss Lucile Johnston
John A. Scott
Mrs. A. Jones Yorke
Miss Ada McGeachy
James H. Clark
A. P. Thorpe, Jr.
Dr. W. Z. Bradford
Mrs. George Patterson
Mrs. Fred E. Little